

Message Text

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PAGE 01 PRETOR 03265 121339Z

53

ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 IO-13 ISO-00 PM-07 SPC-03 CIAE-00

DODE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 PA-03 RSC-01 USIA-15 PRS-01

RSR-01 /098 W

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P R 121242Z SEP 73

FM AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 8604

INFO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN

AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

AMCONSUL DURBAN

AMEMBASSY GABORONE

AMCONSUL JOHANNESBURG

AMEMBASSY LAGOS

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMCONSUL LOURENCO MARQUES

AMCONSUL LUANDA

AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

AMEMBASSY MASERU

AMEMBASSY MBABANE

AMEMBASSY PARIS

USMISSION USUN NY

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE PRETORIA 3265

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINS, SF

SUBJ: CARLETONVILLE SHOOTINGS

REF: PRETORIA 3262

1. PRESS REPORTS INDICATE THAT AT MID-AFTERNOON, ALL QUIET
AT WESTERN DEEP LEVELS MINE, WHERE TEN BLACK WORKERS (NOT
ELEVEN AS ORIGINALLY REPORTED BY SABC) WERE SHOT BY POLICE IN
EARLY MORNING HOURS OF SEPTEMBER 12.

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PAGE 02 PRETOR 03265 121339Z

2. MINE IS NOW SURROUNDED BY ABOUT 100 POLICEMEN, DRAWN FROM CARLETONVILLE AND OTHER TOWNS IN WESTERN TRANSVAAL, AND ARMED WITH STEN GUNS, AUTOMATIC RIFLES, SHOTGUNS AND REVOLVERS. POLICE ARE STOPPING CARS AT ENTRANCE TO ENSURE THAT ONLY AUTHORIZED PERSONNEL ARE ALLOWED THROUGH GATES. THEY HAVE BEEN WORKING THROUGH DAY CONSULTING WITH MINING COMPANY OFFICIALS AND INTERVIEWING BLACKS AT NO. 2 HOSTEL WHERE RIOTING STARTED LAST NIGHT. IT IS BELIEVED THAT SEVERAL MINERS HAVE BEEN ARRESTED. MANY HOME-MADE WEAPONS, INCLUDING PANGAS AND HONED CHISELS, HAVE BEEN CONFISCATED.

3. MINE OFFICIALS RELEASED THE FOLLOWING STATEMENT ON THE SHOOTINGS AT 0330 HOURS LOCAL SEPTEMBER 12, AND HAVE DECLINED TO COMMENT FURTHER.

4. QUOTE: TROUBLE BROKE OUT LATE YESTERDAY AFTERNOON AT NO. 2 HOSTEL AT WESTERN DEEP LEVELS WHEN ABOUT 80 AFRICAN MACHINE OPERATORS STAGED A DEMONSTRATION OVER PAY DIFFERENTIALS.

THEY BECAME AGGRESSIVE AND THE MANAGEMENT OF THE MINE WAS OBLIGED TO CALL ON THE ASSISTANCE OF THE SOUTH AFRICAN POLICE TO RESTORE ORDER.

WHEN THE POLICE ARRIVED, THE GATHERING DISPERSED, BUT WAS SOON JOINED BY MANY OTHERS.

THEY BECAME MORE AGGRESSIVE AND TOOK UP A THREATENING ATTITUDE AND BEGAN TO THROW STONES, CAUSING CONSIDERABLE DAMAGE TO PROPERTY.

THEY ALSO BROKE INTO AND RANSACKED THE HOSTEL'S LIQUOR OUTLET. A CONSIDERABLE AMOUNT OF LIQUOR WAS STOLEN.

AFTER TRYING ALL METHODS TO SUBDUE THE MOB, THE POLICE WERE THEN OBLIGED TO OPEN FIRE.

CASUALTIES ARE 10 DEAD, 12 INJURED -- THEY WERE ADMITTED TO THE WESTERN DEEP HOSPITAL.

IN ADDITION, 10 OTHER AFRICANS WERE INJURED BY THE MOB
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PAGE 03 PRETOR 03265 121339Z

AND WERE ALSO TAKEN TO THE HOSPITAL.

ONE POLICEMAN WAS INJURED AND SENT TO HOSPITAL. THAT IS ALL
WE HAVE TO SAY. UNQUOTE.
SMITH

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: LABOR STRIKES, GOLD MINING, LABOR DISORDERS, CASUALTIES, ARRESTS, DEATHS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 12 SEP 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: garlanwa
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973PRETOR03265
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: n/a
From: PRETORIA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19730940/aaaabdau.tel
Line Count: 112
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION AF
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: PRETORIA 3262
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: garlanwa
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 09 JAN 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <09-Jan-2002 by kelleyw0>; APPROVED <28-Jan-2002 by garlanwa>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: CARLETONVILLE SHOOTINGS
TAGS: PINS, ELAB, SF
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005